

U.S.S.N. 09/030,571

CANTOR *et al.*

AMENDMENT

representing those nucleotide sequences of length $R + L$ present in the target nucleic acid sample, by extending the single-stranded portion of the probes by ligation of a 3'-blocked nucleotide of length L using hybridized target as template, whereby the random nucleotide sequence of length R is extended.

Please replace claims 70, 74 and 92-94 with amended claims 70, 74 and 92-94 as follows:

F₂
70. (Twice Amended) An array of 4^R nucleic acid probes, wherein each probe has a double-stranded portion at the 3'-terminus, a single-stranded portion at the 5'-terminus, and a random nucleotide sequence of length R within the single-stranded portion.

F₃
74. (Amended) An array of nucleic acid probes, wherein each probe comprises a single-stranded portion at one terminus and a double-stranded portion at the opposite terminus, wherein
the single-stranded portion includes a random nucleotide sequence of length R ; and
one strand of the double-stranded portion is conjugated to a coupling agent through which the probes are fixed to a solid support.

92. (Amended) The array of claim 74, wherein the probes are labelled with a detectable label.

F₄
93. (Amended) The array of claim 92, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of radioisotope, a stable isotope, an enzyme, an antibody, a fluorescent chemical, a luminescent chemical, a chromatic chemical, and a metal.

94. (Amended) The array of claim 74, wherein the nucleic acids are DNA, RNA, Protein Nucleic Acid (PNA), or a combination thereof.

REMARKS

A check (\$220) for the fees for a one month extension of time and a terminal disclaimer accompanies this response. Any fees that may be due in connection with this application may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-